



**New President of the German Archaeological Institute elected**

The General Assembly designated the first woman for top of the Institute

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Presse- und  
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**Today, the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) designated Prof. Dr. Friederike Fless as its future president, the first woman in that position. Prof. Fless will follow Prof. Gehrke, the current president since March 2008, upon his retirement in April 2011.**



She received her PhD in 1992 with a dissertation on ‚Opferdiener und Kultmusiker auf stadtrömischen historischen Reliefs‘ at the Johannes-Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz. After an assistance position at the Archaeological Institute of the University in Mainz, she received the travel scholarship of the DAI.

Her habilitation followed in 2000 on ‚Überlegungen zu den Formen der Aneignung und der Funktion attisch-rotfiguriger Vasen im 4. Jh. v. Chr.‘ during an assistance position at the Institute of Classical Archaeology at the University of Cologne.

Since 2005, Friederike Fless has been professor at the Institute of Classical Archaeology at the Freie Universität Berlin, where she is also spokeswoman of the Interdisciplinary Centre of the Ancient World (2004) and the Excellence Cluster TOPOI (2007).

After the presidency of Helmut Kyrieleis (1988 – 2003), once again a classical archaeologist – and for the first time in the history of the DAI – a woman will be in charge of one of the largest research institutes for archaeology worldwide.

Prof. Fless is regarded as one of the renowned experts in her field, nationally as well as internationally. She stands for a wide scope of research topics, ranging from archaeological fieldwork to iconographical studies, characterized by a special interest in problems of ethnic identities, intercultural contacts and the formation of space.

Her numerous publications account for her research activities such as her works on the Greek expansion in Black Sea area. Furthermore, she has proven her methodical and organizational skills in establishing the interdisciplinary research association, „Topoi – The Formation and Transformation of Space and Knowledge in Ancient Civilizations“, being awarded as Cluster of Excellence in the German Universities Excellence Initiative in 2007.

Prof. Fless’ connection to the DAI is already very close. Apart from joint research activities, she had been elected as Korrespondierendes Mitglied (2004) and Ordentliches Mitglied (2006). Since 2005, she has been on the scientific board of the Archäologischer Anzeiger. Since 2006, she has been a member of the Zentralkommission, the governing body of the institute, as a representative of the Classical Archaeology.

Her main objectives as president will be the further development of the comparative research projects within the DAI as well as to strengthen international cooperations and research activities.

Due to her professional sovereignty, her reputation also beyond her research field as well as her expertise in science management, the Zentralkommission of the DAI is convinced to have elected a president, who will steer a successful course.